REMARKS

Claims 1 and 4-6 have been amended. Support for these amendments can be found in original claim 1 and in Table 2, example 2, of this application. Claim 13 is new. Support for claim 13 can be found on page 12, line 28, to page 13, line 8, of the specification.

Claims 1 and 2 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Okajima. Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite a coating layer produced with a resin composition including: (A) an aqueous polyester resin; and (B) at least one compound selected from the group consisting of a water-soluble titanium chelate compound and a water-soluble titanium acylate "as main components, and the mixing ratio (A)/(B) being from 10/90 to 59.3/40.7 by weight."

Okajima does not disclose or suggest an aqueous coating liquid containing the recited components (A) and (B) in a mixing ratio (A)/(B) of ***10/90 to 59.3/40.7*** in any of its 34 preferred embodiments or in the specification in general (Okajima, Tables 3 and 4). In fact, none of Okajima's 34 embodiments uses the claimed titanium compounds as a coupling agent. Rather, a silane coupling agent is used. In addition, only four of its 34 embodiments, examples 18 and 21-23, include an aqueous dispersion of polyester resin and a coupling agent in their coating liquid, and the respective mixing ratios (Polyester)/(Silane Agent) of these examples are 90/10, 66.7/33.3, 66.6/33.3 and 86.7/13.3, not 10/90 to 59.3/40.7 as claimed. Thus, Okajima's exemplary embodiments have a much lower concentration of coupling agents than, and contain a different type of coupling agents from, the claimed invention. This application states that titanium acylate, titanium chelate, zirconium chelate, and zirconium acylate act as crosslinking agents in the claimed coating liquid (Specification, page 9, line 27, to page 10, line 5). A low concentration of component (B) results in an insufficient cross-linking and an insufficient suppression of rainbow reflections. Since Okajima teaches very low concentration of coupling agents in its exemplary embodiments, and since a silane coupling agent which does not act as a crosslinking agent is used, Okajima's coating liquids are not the same as or obviously similar to those of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Okajima fails to disclose or suggest the claimed

coating layer with its claimed components and mixing ratio, and this rejection should be withdrawn.

In addition, the inventors of the claimed invention choose the claimed mixing ratio and chemical components to produce a readily-adhesive polyester film with suppressed rainbow reflection and excellent transparency that is suitable as a base material for antireflection films applied to the front side of a display screen such as LCD's, CRT's and PDP's (Specification, page 1, lines 8-15). Okajima is directed to polyester films for decorative plates with "a high hiding power" and low transparency, and fails to teach how to reduce rainbow reflections. (Okajima, column 1, lines 53-62, claim 1). Thus, Okajima does not provide any reason to select the claimed chemical components and mixing ratio, and a person of ordinary skill in the art would not have arrived at the claimed invention in view of its disclosure. Accordingly, the claimed invention is not obvious in view of Okajima, and this rejection should be withdrawn.

With respect to claim 2, the Examiner alleges that it would have been obvious to increase the transparency of Okajima's film to arrive at the claimed invention. Applicants disagree. Claim 2 recites a total light transmittance of at least 85%. Okajima discloses a polyester film for decorative plates which has an optical density of 0.1 to 5.0 with a high hiding power to enable the films to be used on substrates with various color tones (Okajima, column 1, lines 53-62, claim 1). An optical density in the range of 0.1 to 5.0 is equivalent to approximately 0-79 % transmittance.[1] Accordingly, Okajima's film does not exhibit the claimed light transmittance.

In addition, Okajima discourages the use of films with excellent transparency by stating that "if individual films for the decorative sheet have a deteriorated hiding power, the color tone of the substrate adversely affects that of the surface of the decorative plate or decorative sheet, so

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[1] Percent Transmittance = $10^{-(\text{Optical Density})} \times 100\%$.

Percent Transmittance = $10^{-(0.1)} \times 100\% = 79\%$.

Percent Transmittance = $10^{-(5.0)} \times 100\% = 1.0 \times 10^{-3}\%$.

that inherent high design value of the picture patterns formed thereon are damaged" (Okajima, column 1, lines 53-57). Thus, by teaching high hiding power and specifically teaching to obtain a film with low transparency, Okajima teaches away from the claimed invention. Accordingly, the claimed invention would not have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art in view of Okajima, and this rejection should be withdrawn from claim 2 for yet another reason.

Claims 5 and 7 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Okajima in view of Mizuno (US 5,472,589) or Mizuno (US 5,413,840). Claim 5 has been amended to recite a coating layer produced with a resin composition including: (A) an aqueous polyester resin; and (B) at least one compound selected from the group consisting of a water-soluble titanium chelate compound, a water soluble titanium acylate compound, a water-soluble zirconium chelate compound and a water-soluble zirconium acylate compound "as main components, the mixing ratio (A)/(B) being from 10/90 to 59.3/40.7." In a manner similar to claim 1, Okajima fails to disclose or suggest a coating layer produced with an aqueous coating liquid, wherein the mixing ratio (A)/(B) is from 10/90 to 59.3/40.7 as now recited in claim 5. Mizuno '589 and Mizuno '840 were mentioned by the Examiner only to disclose UV-curable acrylic-based coats. Since these references also fail to disclose or suggest the recited coating layer composition, this rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 3-4, 6 and 8-12 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Okajima in view of Mizuno '589 or Mizuno '840 and further in view of George. As stated above, Okjima, Mizuno '589, and Mizuno '840 do not disclose or suggest the claimed invention. George has been referred to by the Examiner simply to disclose sulfonated polyester as recited in claim 3. Since George also fails to disclose or suggest the claimed mixing ratio and composition, this rejection should also be withdrawn.

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